



Local Public Health Services

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Promoting & Protecting the Health of Iowans



After a measles outbreak, a rural county in Iowa decided to raise awareness about the importance of immunizations. Shortly after their awareness campaign started the local health department received a phone call from Mary, a parent with several children. In speaking with Mary, staff found out that some of Mary's children were partially vaccinated, while others had not received any vaccines at all. Mary feared the side effects of vaccines and deemed them unnecessary; however, after the Measles outbreak Mary began to question her thoughts about immunizations. Staff earned Mary's trust by listening to her concerns and providing information without pressure. The Immunization Nurse talked to Mary about specific vaccines and the catch-up schedule for each of her children, allowing Mary some control over the process. She also reassured her about vaccine safety and directed her to more information about vaccinations. Mary's family had a very positive experience when they visited the health department and the children are now well on their way to being fully vaccinated. At the first visit one of the elementary school aged children said, "I am afraid to get shots." Mary replied to her child, "I am more afraid of what can happen to you if you don't get the shots."

While it is easy to quantify the number of children who received a vaccination because of the health department's immunization program, the true impact is more difficult to measure. Mary's decision positively affected her children and everyone they contact. She also affected her children's opinions about immunizations, which will influence the decisions they make regarding their own families in the future.

Did you know?

Local public health services exist in all of Iowa's 99 counties and local boards of health assure that all communities have services that help promote healthy Iowans and healthier communities.

Why are Local Public Health Services important to promoting and protecting the health of Iowans?

- All Iowans deserve a local public health system that:
 - ✓ supports local capacity to assess, plan, and ensure a basic standard of service delivery, and
 - ✓ serves as the mechanism to continually assess changing health needs and develop strategies to address those needs and achieve local health improvements.
- Increases the capacity of the local board of health to safeguard the health and wellness of communities by:
 - ✓ providing leadership in engaging community stakeholders to support health promotion and preventive services, and
 - ✓ providing public health services that promote healthy behaviors in individuals, groups and communities to prevent and reduce illness, injury, and disease, and
 - ✓ providing gap-filling services when there are no other providers.

Which Iowa Public Health Goals are we working to achieve?

Strengthen the public health infrastructure

Promote healthy behaviors

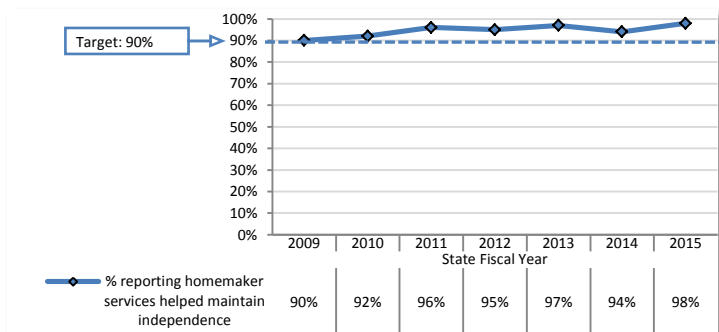
What do we do?

IDPH supports local public health services through:

- Grant funding for local programs that:
 - ✓ Strengthen the public health infrastructure in supporting local needs assessment and community organizing processes to encourage community change for improved health;
 - ✓ Facilitate strategic planning, including initiating partnerships with other community sectors to improve health and setting priorities so available resources are used more efficiently;
 - ✓ Help Iowans engage in healthy behaviors, including promoting health & wellness where Iowans live, work, and play; and
 - ✓ Improve access to health services for those who "fall through the cracks" and often have no other options, including
 - In-home skilled nursing; home care aide; homemaker; health maintenance; and immunizations for children and adults when there is no other funding source.
- Regional consultants provide education, technical assistance, and support to 101 local boards of health and local public health agencies in all 99 counties. Support is directed to resolving community health issues, problems, or concerns; building and maintaining the knowledge and skills necessary to provide local public health services and build healthier communities; developing and delivering quality and effective public health services that are community-driven, culturally appropriate, and responsive to community health needs assessments and changes in the health care delivery system; acting as catalysts for sharing best practices; and providing the linkage between federal, state, and local public health services at a time when the health care system is experiencing tremendous change and health reform efforts continue to evolve.

How do we measure our progress?

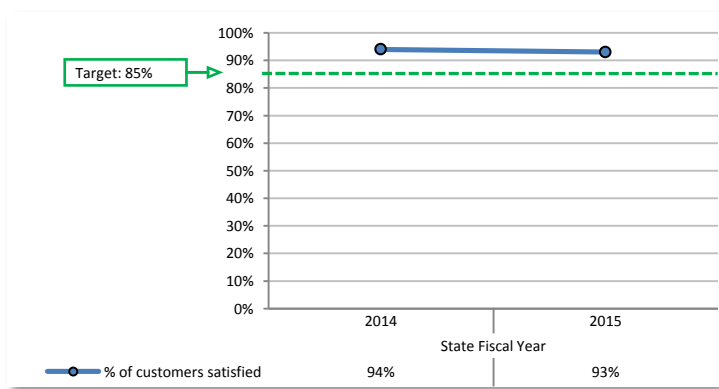
1 Percent of clients who report that homemaker services helped them to remain in their home.



Data Source: LPH service contracts End of Year Report. Data are available annually.

How are we doing? Our target is to achieve at least 90% each year. In SFY2015, we exceeded our target with 98%.

2 Percent of customers (Administrators/Directors of authorized agencies) who are satisfied with Regional Community Health Consultant (RCHC) services.



Data Source: LPH Customer Survey. Data are available annually.

How are we doing? We have set a target of achieving at least 85% each year and have exceeded this goal. For SFY2015, 93% of customers indicated they were satisfied with RCHC services.

What can Iowans do to help?

1. All Iowans should be familiar with their local public health agency and the services provided.
2. All Iowans can support local public health policies and plans.
3. All Iowans should consider serving as a board of health member.
4. All Iowans can create a personal and family health improvement plan.

Expenditures

Local Public Health Liaison: general fund and federal funds. State funds are used for maintenance of effort match for the PHHS Block Grant. K09-0957; 0153-0958

Local Boards of Health: general fund K09-0959

Healthy Aging: general fund K11-1111

	State Fiscal Year 2014 Actual	State Fiscal Year 2015 Actual	State Fiscal Year 2016 Estimate
State funds	\$8,811,986	\$8,810,839	\$8,839,312
Federal funds	\$363,000	\$359,526	\$372,222
Total funds	\$9,174,986	\$9,170,365	\$9,211,534
FTEs	5.83	6.88	8.75

Note: Funding information is intended to provide an overview of funding related to the program area. It does not include all federal and state requirements and/or restrictions for the use of funds. Contact the program area for more detailed budget information.